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BRADFORD AND MELKSHAM
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1943.



REPORT.

General Statistics.

Area.—26,881 acres.

Population (1931 Census).—8,812.

Number of inhabited houses (1943).—2,620.

Rateable Value (1st April, 1943).—£55,033.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate (1943/4).—£276

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Births.

		M.	F.	Total.
Live Births.—Legitimate	...	93	70	163
Illegitimate	...	4	10	14
		97	80	177
Still Births.—Legitimate	...	1	3	4
Illegitimate	...	1	1	2
		2	4	6

	Rural District.	England & Wales.
Birth Rate.		
Per 1,000 Population	16.5	16.5
Still-birth Rate.		
Per 1,000 Population	0.56	0.51
Per 1,000 live births	33.9	—

Deaths.

		M.	F.	Total.
Deaths from all causes	...	49	48	97
Deaths of Infants under 1 year :				
Legitimate	5	2	7
Illegitimate	1	—	1

	Rural District.	England & Wales.
Death Rate.		
Per 1,000 Population	9.07	12.1
Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births	45.0	49.0

Analysis of deaths from all causes.

	M.	F.	Total
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	1	1	2
Other forms of tuberculosis ...	—	1	1
Influenza	2	—	2
Cancer : Buccal cavity ; Oesophagus ;			
Uterus	—	1	1
Stomach and duodenum ...	2	1	3
Breast	—	2	2
All other sites	2	2	4
Diabetes	—	1	1
Intracranial vascular lesions ...	3	8	11
Heart disease	13	16	29
Other circulatory diseases ...	3	—	3
Bronchitis	2	4	6
Pneumonia	1	—	1
Other respiratory diseases ...	1	—	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	—	1
Other digestive diseases ...	2	3	5
Nephritis	4	—	4
Premature birth	5	1	6
Congenital malformation ; Birth in-			
juries ; Infantile diseases	1	—	1
Road traffic accidents	—	1	1
Other violent causes	2	—	2
All other causes	4	6	10
	—	—	—
	49	48	97
	—	—	—

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Scarlet Fever	20
Whooping Cough	20
Diphtheria	1
Erysipelas	2
Measles	176
Pneumonia	4

Scarlet Fever. A number of cases of a mild type have occurred throughout the year.

Diphtheria. Owing to the willing acceptance of the facilities offered by the Wiltshire County Council for the immunisation of children against diphtheria all fear of epidemics has been lost ; only one case occurred.

Measles. A minor epidemic of measles ran through the area ; there were very few cases with any complication. As usual the children of younger age groups were involved, though a very few adult cases were reported.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

This work is, as has been indicated above, being continued by the County Medical Officer. As many of the children now attending school have been "done" during the pre-school period the numbers done as school children have fallen. The returns are made by the County Medical Officer for the County. As an illustration of how good a response has been made to the Government Campaign I give a village nurse's triumphant remark : "There are only two babies in my district not done, and I'm hopeful of getting them done next time, as they are still just over one year old." As she is responsible for the pre-school children in two villages—one large,—it will be seen that very few children can be left to run any risk should infection be brought in. It is very interesting to notice the change in the parents' approach to the subject now. In the large proportion of cases the parents anxiously enquire when the babies can be done ; in a very few cases only now are persuasive measures required.

JEAN MURRAY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

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Medical Officers of Health.

January, 1945.